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Geographical range

www.iucnredlist.org
www.iucn.org/plants
Help Save Species
www.arkive.org

Species of the Day: *Apium bermejoi*

Apium bermejoi is listed as 'Critically Endangered' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. This herbaceous plant can be found creeping over the ground in temporary streambeds on the Balearic island of Minorca in the western Mediterranean Sea.

To date, there are less than 100 individuals in an area of just a few dozen square meters. Its habitat is often trampled by passing fishermen and hikers, or more seriously disrupted by off-road motorcyclists. In addition, *Apium bermejoi* must compete with a wide variety of other plant species for essential water and nutrients. Its present decline seems to be related to a series of drier summers, showing that this species is very sensitive to climate change.

The small area that *Apium bermejoi* inhabits must be better protected. To make conservation actions more effective, further studies of this species are also urgently required. Re-introduction to suitable habitats is needed as a way of increasing its numbers and chance of survival.

Species of the Day is sponsored by UNEP

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